GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1784
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
FALL IN PRICES OF COCONUT OIL COPRA AND COCONUT
T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the price of coconut oil, copra and coconut have been recording an unprecedented fall from the year 2000 onwards and their prices have come down to the record low during April, 2001; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken to save the interest of cultivators in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): The prices of coconut oil, copra and coconut have shown a downward trend during the past several months.

(b): Copra is covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme of theGovernment. To stabilize the prices of copra, record quantities of 2.35 lakh tones of copra have already been procured by National Agricultural Cooperative MarketingFederation of India Ltd. (NAFED), central nodal agency.Instruments of trade have also been used to arrest the decline in prices. The import duty on copra, coconut including desiccated coconut has been increased from 35% to 70% in 2001-02. The import dutyon crude edible oil has been increased from 35% to 75% and on refined edible oils to 85%.